D Rec March 26
Ans — 29

Mc Gill College,
Montreal.

March 22. 75.

Dr Engelmann.
St Louis.

Dear Sir,

I take the liberty of enclosing to you specimens of a rush which I collected in the Rocky mountains last Summer.

I am preparing a list of my plants & should be much obliged by your

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opinion on this one.

Yours very truly

George M. Dawson

Geologist & Botanist

B.N.A. Boundary Commission

6000 all Swamp Methuselahs, respectfully

5000 all " "

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Rec'd May 15
Ans 29

Dawson

Mc Gill College Montreal
May 10. 73

Dr G. Engelmann
St-Louis

Dear Sir,

I have to thank you
for the determination of my
specimens of Juncus Canadensis
& Should have written sooner
in reply to your note, but
have only lately begun the
examination of my collections
& notes.

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I fear I can give little information on the points you mention.

On the forty-ninth parallel no Coniferous trees occur from about Long. 96° 30' to the immediate base of the Rocky Mountains. The Coniferous forest first is continuous from the first-mentioned locality northwestward on the line of the Great Saskatchewan River, as you are no doubt aware, but where Western forms begin to appear I do not know.

I was only a few days among the Rocky Mountains last August & my time was chiefly devoted to Geology,

I shall be happy to do
any thing in collecting
facts.

by truly Yours

George Engelmann

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what remained being expended on the arctic & alpine plants. I found Abies Douglasii, however, growing on the eastern slopes, & Pinus contorta (I believe var latifolia) very abundant in the gravelly valleys. There were heavy Leaves Spruce woods at the upper & sheltered ends of some of the valleys (6000 ft-) which are very probably Picea Engelmannii but I unfortunately omitted to procure specimens. I must confess that in riding under them I took them for the Black Spruce & did not make any further examination. Quercus undulata I do not know. The common oak fringing the streams in the red river country seems to be

a variety of <u>macrocarpa</u>, though with small fruit. It occurs westward, wherever woods are found, to about the 101st Meridian & then disappears. I did not find any oaks in the vicinity of the mountains. - I am now busy over my collection of plants & preparing a list for publication in connection with my Geological Report which I hope soon to be able to forward you a copy.

I hope next summer to be at work in the interior of British Columbia & if any questions occur to you on which information is desirable

Rec Febr 14 — 18 14 — Dawson

A. R. C. SELWYN
DIRECTOR

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA

(Museum and Office, 76 St Gabriel Street) MONTREAL.

Victoria. Brit. Columbia Jan 26 1876

Alices grads
Geo Gorman

Dr. J. Engelmann
St-Louis Mo.

Dear Sir,

I send by post a small parcel with a few specimens of plants from B.C. My time occupied in field work this season, has been short & I am not doing anything in botany this winter. I should be glad however at your convenience, to have your

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Remarks on the Specimens sent.

Nos. 1. 2. 3. Three forms of Juniper. I have not been able to learn yet any arborescent juniper. No 2 however sometimes obtains a tree-like form & height of 6 to 10 feet.

Nos 4. Two well marked Varieties of P. Contorta. Which = var. latifolia?

Nos. 5. & 6. Will these stand for A. Englemanni? No 6 is a Swamp variety. No 5 — in general form & character of bark & wood resembles description of Englemanni, as far as I recollect it. It is a fine well grown tree.

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All the Specimens are from localities between the Chilcotin & Blackwater Rivers, West-ward to Fraser.

Prof. Macoun accompanied Mr Selwyn to the Peace River last Summer, & will no doubt give full particulars on that region when his report is issued

Yours very truly

George M. Dawson

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Rec'd March 26

A. R. C. SELWYN DIRECTOR

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA

(Museum and Office, 76 St Gabriel Street) MONTREAL.

March 22 1877

Geo Engelmann Esq M.D.
St Louis Mo.

Dear Sir,

Your letter with determinations of the specimens of Conifers from British Columbia arrived some days since. I must thank You for the interesting notes contained in it, & will now endeavour to answer the questions you ask.

P. ponderosa & P. Contorta were both met with, but being so well known I did not think it worth while sending specimens. The former characterizes the Interior Plateau from the 49th parallel northward, in places, to about lat 51° 20'. Though I speak of its occurrence on the Plateau I use that name to embrace the whole region between the Coast-Mountains, & those associated with the Rockies. The tree is actually most abundant in the valleys of the plateau. P. Contorta is found everywhere in greater or less abundance from the coast to the upward limit of timber, the 49th parallel northward. Prof Macoun mentions its North Eastern limit on the Peace River in his report now in the press, as being at Hudson's Hope.

Vancouver Island & the Western Slope of the Cascade or Coast Range, have an entirely different climate from the interior

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of British Columbia, chiefly characterized by equability & rain. The Douglas Fir as A. grandis is found so far as I know only on the Coast. The specimens were from the vicinity of Victoria. With regard to its bearing age, I know little, but have seen trees only a few inches in diameter with cones — probably not over 20 years old.

P. Menziesii is also a coast-tree, but I have only seen it on hills & mountains some distance from the actual shore. I have no cones among my specimens.

A. Nuttalliana. Another coast-tree, with about the range of Th. Gigantea. It may again occur like the latter tree east of the Fraser R. toward the Rocky Mountains but I have no certain knowledge of this.

A Menziesii? A coast-tree which I have never found ~~Douglas~~ in the interior.

A. Engelmanni. The 'high plateaus' on which this form occurs are elevated 3000 to 4000 feet. Lat of plat 52°. The two growth specimens now sent usually small, & appeared so different from that of which specimens sent last year — which you then said was probably Engelmanni — that I had thought the two were distinct. Of the same, A. Engelmanni is a very common tree over the whole Eastern part of the Interior at elevations of from 2000 feet, or lower, to 4000 feet. It occurs with the two next, but does not appear to be so hardy, especially as ~~A. Douglasiana~~ A. leiocarpa.

P. Albicaulis found near the sea level at Lytton on the Fraser (superior to flexilis & macrocarpa but probably this tree) Appears on the Salmon River (lat 52°40') with the furthest inland

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18

Specimens of Th fisaulia. Also on eastern flanking mountains of the west range South of Salmon River at heights of 4000 to near 5000 feet, appearing to follow veins of great precipitation. Nowhere very abundant as far as I have seen.

A. lasiocarpa, represents A. Grandis in the interior. Appears like the last to require much moisture. pretty abundant in some places at heights from 3000 to 4000 feet, especially on western exposures. Very common in the Cariboo Gold region at about 4000 feet, giving the woods a peculiar deep blue appearance.

On the Selkirk flanking mountains of the Coast Range, South of Salmon River to heights of over 5000 feet, where owing to great snow fall & drifting, snow is found in large patches in the woods in July. At the highest elevations forms scattered park-like groves in Alpine meadows, & appears to be the driest arctic tree in the country.

If any further questions occur to you I shall be glad to give any information in my power

Yours very truly
George M. Dawson

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DIRECTOR

Rec'd June 18th

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA.

(Museum and Office, 76 St Gabriel Street,) MONTREAL.

June 15th 1880

Dr G. Engelmann
3003 Locust St
St Louis

Dear Sir,

I have to thank you for your prompt reply to my questions as to western conifers.

Pinus contorta appears to be very widely spread in the Peace River Country altogether E. of the Rocky Mountains. The first Banksiana I saw in going Eastward & Southward was on the watershed between the Athabasca & Saskatchewan North of Edmonton. I am sorry I could not send cones of the Larch you enquire for.

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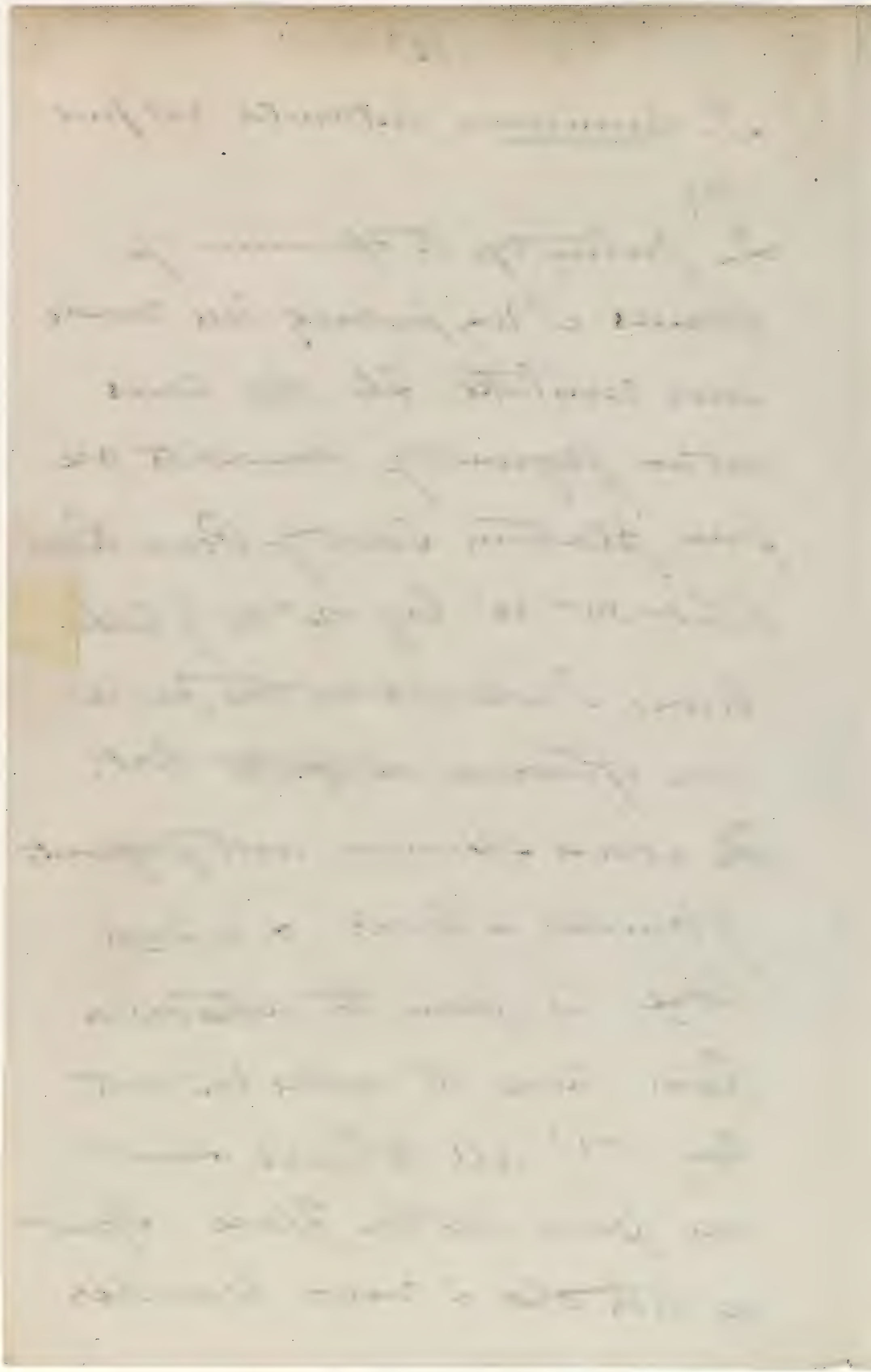
S. Americana, but could not find
any.

In putting up the specimens I
specimens I may probably have made
some mistake. The old cones
with no fragments branchlets are
from Slaters Sandy Peace River
(Lat 55-0 50' long 120° 20') The
cones I collected at this place
when afterwards altogether lost.
The second specimen, with fragments
branches, & cones, & a fresh
cone is from the athabasca
River (near its intersection with
long 117°) all the cones sent—
are from this one place. Put-
in with old & new branches



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DIRECTOR

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA.

(Museum and Office, 76 St Gabriel Street,) MONTREAL.

18

Yesterday I fell to pieces.

I am glad to hear that you are

going with Prof. Sargent

with the intention of proceeding

visiting the Fraser River. Prof.

Sargent has written to me for

various items of information on

the distribution of trees in the

North West. This has caused me

to look up some of my old notes

on the subject & I am now

busily printed a short article,

with maps, on the distribution

of certain trees in British Columbia

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I shall have much pleasure in
sending advance copies to
yourself & Prof Sargent if I can
get corrected proof in time, or
will send them you if you
wish & can give me any address.
I propose publishing the Notes in the
Canadian Naturalist in the
first instance, & afterwards
reprinting it with possible
additions in a pamphlet
Govt. Survey report. I wish this
I owe to you Prof Sargent
about all the facts
I have for his maps.

Yours truly
Geo. M. Dawson

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Rec April 3rd
Ans " "

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, CANADA.

GEOLOGICAL & NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY.

Alfred R. C. Selwyn L.L.D., F.R.S., Director.

MUSEUM & OFFICE, SUSSEX St. OTTAWA.

30 March 1882

Dr. E. Engelmann
St Louis

Dear Sir,

I take the liberty of enclosing to you a few specimens of Coniferous trees collected last Summer, chiefly in the Rocky Mountains near the 49th Parallel. I have the Cones of three of the species, but that supposed to belong to Abies Concolor is very small & poor. The

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Cones are included separately in a
tin box which I mail with this.
The largest Cone is that of a Speci
of pine which grows in the pass
& lower dry valleys of the mountains.
a tree of small size & rather scrubby.
The names attached to the
Specimens are Prof. Macoun's.
I shall be much indebted if
you can take time to look over
the Specimens & give me the
benefit of your views on them

Yours truly
George M. Dawson

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